

Message

From: Greenberg, Ken [Greenberg.Ken@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/7/2014 7:29:27 PM
To: Karlson, Kristine [Karlson.Kristine@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Armstrong Chicken Ranch
Attachments: Conditional_Waiver_3.pdf; Armstrong_October_2008_Inspection.pdf; Armstrong_December_2008_Inspection.pdf

More on the egg farm, including the RWQCB conditional waiver

From: Sakamoto, Glenn
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2014 11:20 AM
To: Greenberg, Ken
Subject: FW: Armstrong Chicken Ranch

FYI.

From: Mata, Michelle@Waterboards [<mailto:Michelle.Mata@waterboards.ca.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2014 10:45 AM
To: Sakamoto, Glenn
Subject: RE: Armstrong Chicken Ranch

Glenn,

I haven't scheduled the inspection yet, however, I plan to do so soon. If there is any particular day(s) or week that would work better for your inspector please let me know so I can aim for that when I talk to owner of the chicken ranch.

I have attached a copy of the conditional waiver and the 2 inspection reports. I had attached these reports to my previous email but it looks like my attachments were deleted. If you receive this email without attachments, let me know and I will post the documents on our ftp site for you to download.

Upon the inspection (and review of the ROWD) we will determine whether to issue WDRs or an NPDES permit and what requirements would be included.

Michelle Mata
Water Resource Control Engineer
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108-2700
(619) 521-3369

From: Sakamoto, Glenn [<mailto:Sakamoto.Glenn@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2014 6:18 AM
To: Mata, Michelle@Waterboards
Subject: RE: Armstrong Chicken Ranch

Michelle –

Thank you again for your summary on Armstrong Egg Ranch. I have additional questions:

- When will you (the Water Board) be conducting your inspection of this facility? We would like to coordinate with your office on a possible joint inspection. We would be sending down an inspector to join your team.
- Could you also provide me with details on your "conditional waiver?"
- What type of Individual WDR has the Board been considering for this facility? Would this be an WDR/NPDES permit or a non-NPDES WDR?
- What type of provisions would the WDR include? Would it be similar to the requirements from EPA's CAFO regulations?
- Could we get a copy of your Regional Board's November 2008 and Decemeber 2008 inspection reports?

Some or most of this information may only be obtain after your (our joint) inspection; however, we appreciate any answers you can provide in advance of our inspection. Thank you.

Regards,
Glenn

Glenn H Sakamoto
Environmental Scientist
Enforcement Division (ENF 3-1)
US EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

W: (415) 972-3556
Fax: (415) 947-3549
E-mail: sakamoto.glenn@epa.gov

From: Mata, Michelle@Waterboards [<mailto:Michelle.Mata@waterboards.ca.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2014 12:07 PM
To: Sakamoto, Glenn
Cc: Outwin, Brandi@Waterboards; Barker, David@Waterboards
Subject: Armstrong Chicken Ranch

Hello Glenn,

Here is a summary of my findings for Armstrong Egg Ranch (Facility):

- The Facility is not covered under an NPDES/WDR permit, however, they are enrolled under a San Diego Water Board conditional waiver for discharges from animal operations. The Conditional Waivers expired February 3, 2014. The San Diego Water Board is in the process of renewing the waivers.

- The Conditional Waiver does not require groundwater monitoring, therefore we do not have any nitrate data. You should contact: Tom Lambert, County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health. I previously sent you his contact information.
- Our records indicate the Facility has over 300,000 hens; based on available information it appears Armstrong Chicken Ranch is a CAFO under 40 CFR 122.23 criteria.
- In October 2008, the San Diego Water Board received an Environmental Complaint and Petition for Enforcement from the Humane Society of the United States (attached). The complaint alleged that the Facility was illegally discharging wastewater into storm drains and onto the neighbors land and requested the San Diego Water Board initiate an investigation.
- An inspection was conducted in October 2008 (attached). In summary, the inspection report states that the Facility was not in compliance with the conditional waiver. Although there were no discharges at the time of the inspection, there was evidence of previous discharges. In addition, the Facility did not have adequate BMPs to ensure process wastewater didn't leave the site or to prevent storm water from coming into contact with manure piles.
- In November 2008, the San Diego Water Board issued a Notice of Violation to the Facility for the failure to comply with the San Diego Water Board Basin Plan Prohibitions and Conditional Waiver Requirements.
- In December 2008, the San Diego Water Board conducted a follow-up inspection of the Facility (attached). The inspection report states that the facility had implemented temporary BMPs and management measures to prevent discharges from flowing onto adjacent properties or to the storm water conveyance system. The report also notes that the San Diego Water Board was considering issuing individual WDRs to the Facility.
- In March 2009, the San Diego Water Board sent a letter to the Facility requesting the submittal of a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD). I was not able to locate a ROWD in our records. The March 2009 letter did not indicate a deadline for submittal.
- In March 2010, the County of San Diego Agriculture, Weights, and Measures staff conducted an inspection of the Facility and indicated (in an email to the San Diego Water Board) that the owner of the Facility was waiting for grant funding to proceed with engineering designs and construction of additional facilities. This is the last correspondence in our files.

Next steps:

The San Diego Water Board plans to conduct an inspection of the Facility in the near future (date TBD). Please let me know if you (or someone in your office) are interested in attending. We will also be following up on the status of the ROWD.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Respectfully,

Michelle Mata
Water Resource Control Engineer
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108-2700
(619) 521-3369



***** ATTACHMENT NOT DELIVERED *****

This Email message contained an attachment named

image001.jpg

which may be a computer program. This attached computer program could contain a computer virus which could cause harm to EPA's computers, network, and data. The attachment has been deleted.

This was done to limit the distribution of computer viruses introduced into the EPA network. EPA is deleting all computer program attachments sent from the Internet into the agency via Email.

If the message sender is known and the attachment was legitimate, you should contact the sender and request that they rename the file name extension and resend the Email with the renamed attachment. After receiving the revised Email, containing the renamed attachment, you can rename the file extension to its correct name.

For further information, please contact the EPA Call Center at (866) 411-4EPA (4372). The TDD number is (866) 489-4900.

***** ATTACHMENT NOT DELIVERED *****

***** ATTACHMENT NOT DELIVERED *****

This Email message contained an attachment named
image001.jpg

which may be a computer program. This attached computer program could contain a computer virus which could cause harm to EPA's computers, network, and data. The attachment has been deleted.

This was done to limit the distribution of computer viruses introduced into the EPA network. EPA is deleting all computer program attachments sent from the Internet into the agency via Email.

If the message sender is known and the attachment was legitimate, you should contact the sender and request that they rename the file name extension and resend the Email with the renamed attachment. After receiving the revised Email, containing the renamed attachment, you can rename the file extension to its correct name.

For further information, please contact the EPA Call Center at (866) 411-4EPA (4372). The TDD number is (866) 489-4900.

***** ATTACHMENT NOT DELIVERED *****